Message from Steve Cohen

Dear Earth Institute Alumni,

This Spring, the Earth Institute’s alumni programming is designed to enrich your learning and professional development, and to strengthen your ties to Columbia University.

A new course, the Practicum in Innovative Sustainability Leadership, features weekly talks by leading sustainability practitioners on the lessons, strategies, and secrets of integrating sustainability in organizations. George Sarrinikolaou and I, who are co-teaching the course, would like to invite you to join us for one or more of these talks, which take place during the first half of the class, on Wednesdays, from 5:10 – 7:00 PM through April 23 in room 209 Havemeyer. Speakers include Lori Arcito, First Deputy Commissioner, New York City Department of Transportation; and Howard Warren Buffett, Executive Director, Howard G. Buffett Foundation, Adjunct Professor at Columbia and former policy advisor in the Executive Office of the President of the United States. To RSVP, please email williams@ei.columbia.edu.

In March, I will moderate a panel discussion on energy efficiency, an area of sustainability that is thriving in the New York metropolitan region. This event will be held on Low Library and is entitled “Managing Energy Efficiency: Translating Policy into Action in the Real World”. Please join us for the discussion and the reception that will follow. March 13th from 6:00-8:00PM. RSVP here.

You are also invited to join other alumni and current students at the Earth Institute’s Sustainability Skills Seminars – free training sessions on Saturdays that focus on the technical knowledge which is in demand in our field. We have seminars planned on sustainable urban agriculture and the business of consulting. We are also offering a workshop for alumni and students who are changing careers and who could benefit from learning about strategies for making the transition.

One of my top priorities is to offer you opportunities to advance your learning and your careers. I welcome your feedback and ideas on issues we should explore and skills you would like to develop. Please share your thoughts with the Institute by emailing ei-alumni@ei.columbia.edu or to me personally at sco@ei.columbia.edu. I hope to see you later this Spring.

Best regards,

Steve Cohen

Steve Cohen, Executive Director
The Earth Institute, Columbia University

Program News

New Courses Offered by the Earth Institute: This semester the Earth Institute launched two new classes. Water Systems Analysis provides students with an analytic framework for operating, managing, and planning water systems. The Practicum in Innovative Sustainability Leadership features leading sustainability practitioners, working in an array of areas, who share the lessons, strategies, and secrets of making environmental concerns a strategic part of organizations.

Faculty Profile: MPA in Environmental Science and Policy (MPA-ESP) faculty member Preeti Tew Aggarwala works with cities, transportation, and the environment, from the perspectives of formal public official, policy expert, and historian.

FEATURED EVENTS

February 28: All Ivy Environmental and Sustainable Development Career Fair: The 11th annual Career Fair will be held on February 28 at Lerner Hall, Columbia University, from 10:00AM-3:00PM. If you would like to attend, please contact Nathan Rudder.

March 28: Managing Energy Efficiency: Translating Policy into Action in the Real World: Join us from 6:00PM-8:00PM for a panel discussion on energy efficiency hosted by Steve Cohen. Panelists include Steve Williams, Ron Araujo, Frank Evans, and Richard Kaufman. For more information or to RSVP please contact Hayley Martinez.

May 3: Earth Institute Spring Alumni Association Networking Day: Save the Date: Join your fellow Earth Institute Alumni on Saturday, May 3, from 3:00-6:00PM at the Kellogg Center (420 W 118 St) for the Spring Alumni Networking Day. More details to come. If you would like to attend, please contact Nathan Rudder.

SUSTAINABILITY SKILLS SEMINARS

March 1: Advanced Workshop for Career Transitioners: Pursue your career transition with confidence by learning to identify the type of career that suits you best, and the strategies and tools to land it. RSVP here.

March 29: How Consulting Firms Work: Gain a practical, hands-on understanding of why business development is important, how it relates to other key activities of consulting firms, and how firms and individuals must conduct business development in order to be successful. RSVP here.

April 26: Sustainable Urban Agriculture: This seminar will cover the different models and methods for urban agriculture (including rooftop, hydroponics, vertical integrated, and more); the economic considerations of each; and the barriers they face to widespread implementation. RSVP here.

Learn More About All of the Earth Institute’s Events on
Alumni Profiles

Lindsey Clark (MSSM ’13) an energy and sustainability data analyst for Memorial Sloan Kettering, works to bring greater sustainability and energy efficiency to the world’s oldest and largest private cancer center.

Todd Miner (MPA ’11) puts the management and planning skills he acquired from the program to good use as director of Friends of Rockaway, an organization working to restore the Rockaway Peninsula in the aftermath of Hurricane Sandy.

Hannah Perls (UGPSD ’11) takes her degree to El Salvador, where she is responsible for program development at Foundation Cristosal, a non-profit human rights NGO.

Jobs

The Earth Institute Job List contains a diverse mix of full-time, part-time, and internship opportunities in the field of sustainability. Access to the list is free to all alumni—be sure to update your account with your personal address once you graduate to continue getting info! Contact us for information or if you have a job to share.